be able to have a somewhat comprehensive grasp of our subject, by nature so abstruse as to baffle our imagination in its efforts at forming any very definite idea regarding its ultimate character.

I shall first of all try to draw my inferences from a very simple fact of nature, that can easily be understood by all. If we tie a piece of brick, or stone, at the end of a piece of rope, a few yards long and holding it by the other begin to revolve it round and round, the time taken by the brick end of my rope, in making a complete revolution around my person, will be the same, as that taken by the end, I am holding in my hand and yet how different appears the speed between the two ends. If we apply this very simple instance in the case of our earth's diurnal rotation round its own axis, we shall find that the more we approach the earth's centre or the axis, the less will be the speed with which its particles should be moving, and the more the inertia; so also, vice versa, i.e. the more we move away

fr<3m the centre, the greater appears the speed with which particles of matter move in space and the less the inertia. From this it is easy to infer, that